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FLOOR DEBATE

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going to bring in some revenue for the state, and after the hearing, the arguments we've been having on the floor this morning about the path we're beginning to take, some people might think that's pretty wise. But realize that three out of every four dollars that's received in those casinos, as in the case of Council Bluffs goes to, what, state of Iowa? No, goes to Las Vegas. So, in other words, what you're asking is, is how do we better fund Las Vegas? Is it give people a shorter trip to drive to a casino to help give that money to Vegas? Or do we make them drive across the river to give that money to Vegas and then hope that we get that extra dollar that comes out of that? When you look at the actual issue before us, this is not just specifically dealing to the...to the tribal lands, and so this is a...this is a broader policy issue, I think, and that is if we're going to do it I think we should eliminate the two-mile juris...the interdiction zone and just have it all over the state. Because it's the idea that we're able to allow it into the small parts of the state, but why don't we want to bring it to the center part of the state? Because it's not politically feasible and people won't vote for that, and I understand that. So I think there is some fallacies in the idea here. It's probably politically acceptable to do it, but I think the real issue here is that we aren't going to be able to benefit as greatly from a casino in Nebraska just because it's built here, because a lot of that money is still going to go to Vegas. Senator Redfield is going to speak later, and I don't know if she was going to address this, but in the committee we talked about having the state own the casino, and Senator Cunningham thought that that would probably be the only casino in the United States that would fail because the state would be running it. But the idea is, is that we're not going to do a whole lot to help us from the standpoint of the social side either. That is, we might get that extra dollar that comes from four dollars that's gambled at a casino, but we're probably going to pay anywhere from one to three dollars for the social costs. I mean, if you look at Council Bluffs, they're building some great monuments over there, but what monuments aren't they telling you about? They're not telling you about the bankruptcy rate that's in...that's quintupled or increased five times since the casinos have come in. They're not talking about the crime rate that increased. And so if we're going to make an honest debate about